

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 116668
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 INR-10 SS-15 SP-02 /043 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:PGSMITH:JJ

APPROVED BY AF:LWALKER

AF/I:USTRaus (DRAFT)

AF/E:RPOST

PM/SAS:CCECIL

-----044348 081842Z /72

R 081829Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 116668

STADIS//////////

FROM WALKER FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MI, US

SUBJECT: MALAWI OFFICER TRAINING - IMET PROGRAM

REF: LILONGWE 0627

1. ON BASIS LETTER MENTIONED REFTEL FROM DAO TO DOD/ISA,
LATTER FORMALLY ASKED DEPARTMENT'S OPINION ON INITIATING
IMET PROGRAM. FOLLOWING IN PARA 2 IS TEXT OF AF'S REPLY,
WHICH AT THIS POINT IS THE DEPARTMENT'S POSITION. I
REGRET THAT WE WERE NOT ABLE TO TAKE A MORE FORTHCOMING
POSITION, BUT AM SURE YOU CAN UNDERSTAND THE HEAVY
COMPETITION FOR ANY FY 78 AND FY 79 FUNDS THAT MAY
BECOME AVAILABLE FOR REPROGRAMMING. WE WILL GIVE CAREFUL
CONSIDERATION TO IMET FOR MALAWI IN FORMULATING FY 80
BUDGET REQUEST.

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2. BEGIN TEXT: MR. ROBERT J. MURRAY, DEPUTY ASSISTANT
SECRETARY, NEAR EASTERN, AFRICAN AND SOUTH ASIAN
AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. DEAR MR. MURRAY:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF MARCH 22, 1978, CONCERNING
THE POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL MILITARY

EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM FOR MALAWI.

ALTHOUGH OUR INTERESTS IN MALAWI ARE NOT GREAT, I BELIEVE THAT A CASE FOR PUTTING MODEST FUNDS INTO AN IMET PROGRAM CAN BE MADE. IN PRINCIPLE, THEREFORE, WE CAN ACCEPT YOUR PROPOSAL AS A SHELF PROJECT WHICH WE COULD THEN LOOK AT IF FUNDS SHOULD BECOME AVAILABLE. HOWEVER, WE PROBABLY WOULD ASSIGN A RATHER LOW PRIORITY TO MALAWI IN COMPETITION WITH OTHER NEW IMET PROGRAMS THAT MIGHT BE STARTED UP IN AFRICA IN THE COMING YEARS. AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, THEREFORE, A MALAWI IMET PROGRAM MAY NOT BE FEASIBLE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. SINCERELY, LANNON WALKER, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS.
END TEXT.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY TRAINING, MILITARY PERSONNEL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE116668
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PGSIMITH:JJ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780195-0073
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780582/aaaacrzi.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4ad6b4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: 78 LILONGWE 627
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2760355
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MALAWI OFFICER TRAINING - IMET PROGRAM
TAGS: MASS, MI, US
To: LILONGWE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4ad6b4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014